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Corps of Engineers Announces Information Session on Scobey Hill Dam

BUFFALO, NY— The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District (the Corps) is holding an information session regarding the Scobey Hill (Springville) Dam on Thursday, September 27th, 2007, at 7 p.m. in the Concord Town Hall at 86 Franklin Street, Springville, New York. The purpose of the meeting is to get input from the public about a study the Corps is doing to determine the feasibility of making modifications to the dam.

The Scobey Hill (Springville) Dam is a 40-foot high, 338-foot long structure that originally functioned as a power generating facility. The study is being performed under Section 506 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, Great Lakes Fisheries and Ecosystem Restoration Authority. The dam currently blocks passage of native fish species and acts as a barrier for sea lamprey to the upper reaches of Cattaraugus Creek. The study will evaluate the economic and environmental benefits associated with the development of a plan which may expand fishery resources to the upstream reaches of Cattaraugus Creek. If the dam is modified, anglers will have greater fishing opportunities for steelhead and other native species. “It is important to involve the community in the decision-making process,” said Laura Ortiz, the Corps’ Project Manager. “Having everyone involved from the beginning ensures that we will thoroughly evaluate the alternatives and assess potential impacts.”

For additional information about the study or the meeting, please contact Laura Ortiz at (716) 879-4407.

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